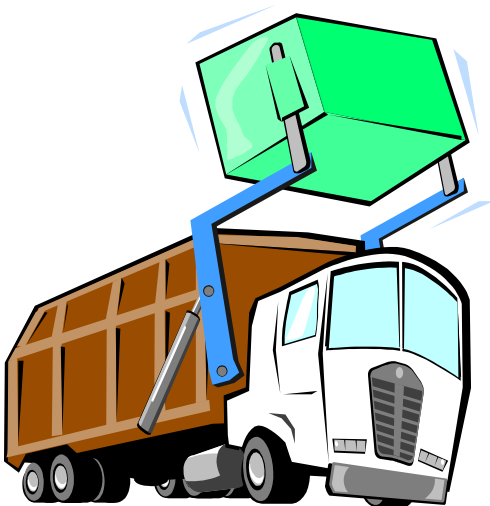




# Let's Talk Trash!

Helpful tips for organizing dumpster clean up days



**Brought to you by the  
Neighborhood Development Center**

# Let's Talk Trash

*Helpful Tips for Dumpster Clean-up Days*

The following information is provided for neighborhood associations that are planning to rent several large dumpster bins for a neighborhood clean up day. This information comes from experienced people who have organized these clean ups, and has been assembled in an effort to make your clean up day run smoothly and successfully.

*It is by not required that you follow these guidelines, but you are urged to read through the Necessary Tasks and Important Reminders before starting your project.*

## NECESSARY TASKS

1. **Secure Funding.** Don't start planning until you know when your money will be in your bank account.
2. **Select a date, and a couple of optional dates.**  
The dumpster company has to agree with the date and time.
3. **Define your area to be included in the clean-up**
4. **Drive or walk the area and select possible bin sites.**
  - Bins are about 20-24 feet long plus the truck, perhaps and additional 35 feet.
  - Be alert to driveways, corners, trees, power lines, and fire hydrants. You don't want your bins to block any of these.
  - Be conscious of traffic flow issues. Have a flow of traffic for drop-offs, so someone doesn't come from the other side of the street, when you have cars that have been waiting longer.
  - Select locations which are evenly spaced throughout your target area
- **Make a map of the area.** (See Attachment #1)
  - Everyone should use a copy of the same map, there will be less confusion.
  - Map should designate where bin will be located and what type of bin it is, such as Metal Only, rubbish, etc.

**5. Order dumpsters:** (See Attachment #2)

- ✓ Things to consider: Compare cost and size (cubic yards) of dumpsters
- ✓ Can the hauler deliver and pick up on selected date?
- ✓ How many trucks do they have? If they only have one truck, and a few bins, they may not be able to meet your needs.
- ✓ Will there be a reduced rate for a "Metal Only" bin? OR
- ✓ Call a Scrap Metal dealer (Yellow Pages under "Scrap Metals")

**6. Create your fliers** (See attachments #3 & #4 - sample fliers)

- a) You'll need a "Save-the-Date" flier, which should be sent out 3-4 weeks prior to your event AND
- b) A detailed flier containing specific information that should be delivered 1-2 weeks prior to the event.
  - This will be your most effective communication tool!
  - Deliver it door-to-door and/or at a community meeting.
  - Publish it in your newsletter if time allows

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- Tow-Away and No Parking signs are available from the Department of Streets and Traffic if you need them, call 277-4304.  
Post them at least 24 hours in advance. A good strategy to remove cars is to have volunteers knock on doors, ask whose car that is, and explain that the dumpsters are coming, and it should be moved. (See Attachment #5)  
Also warn tenants/residents that there will be noise and activity early Saturday morning!
- Keep in mind you need 2-3 volunteers at each site.  
One should be in charge of traffic flow, and verifying residency of those dropping off. One person will need to watch the dumping to ensure no unapproved items are dumped. This person may want to assist in "packing" the dumpster so you get the most out of it, no air space wherever possible.
- Follow the hauler's directions on items that are NOT acceptable, usually no tires, paint, gas, oil, car batteries, mattresses or other chemicals.

If someone "hides" a tire in the bin, it will be uncovered at the landfill, and the driver will have to pay an additional \$50 per tire, which will be charged back to your organization.

- Don't let people toss things over the sides, someone might be in there arranging things.
- Have relief monitors available. Restroom relief can be a problem!
- Someone needs to stay with the bin until the hauler picks it up. Sweep up after each bin is removed. Take down the Tow Away signs.
- Using cell phones is helpful to keep in touch with your volunteers during the event
- Hope Rehabilitation will bring out a truck to pick up usable items such as books and clothes. You'll need to call them and arrange for the pick-up,
- Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste should be contacted for disposal of paint, motor oil and other chemicals. Someone will have to collect all those and make an appointment to drop the liquids off; 299-7300
- Car batteries and tires can both be recycled. Someone will need to collect them and turn them in (See Attachment #2)
- If very many people have couches to dispose of, you may want to coordinate with your collection company for a "Bulky Goods" service. Often they will come pick up three couches for under \$20. This saves lots of space in your dumpsters for smaller junk.

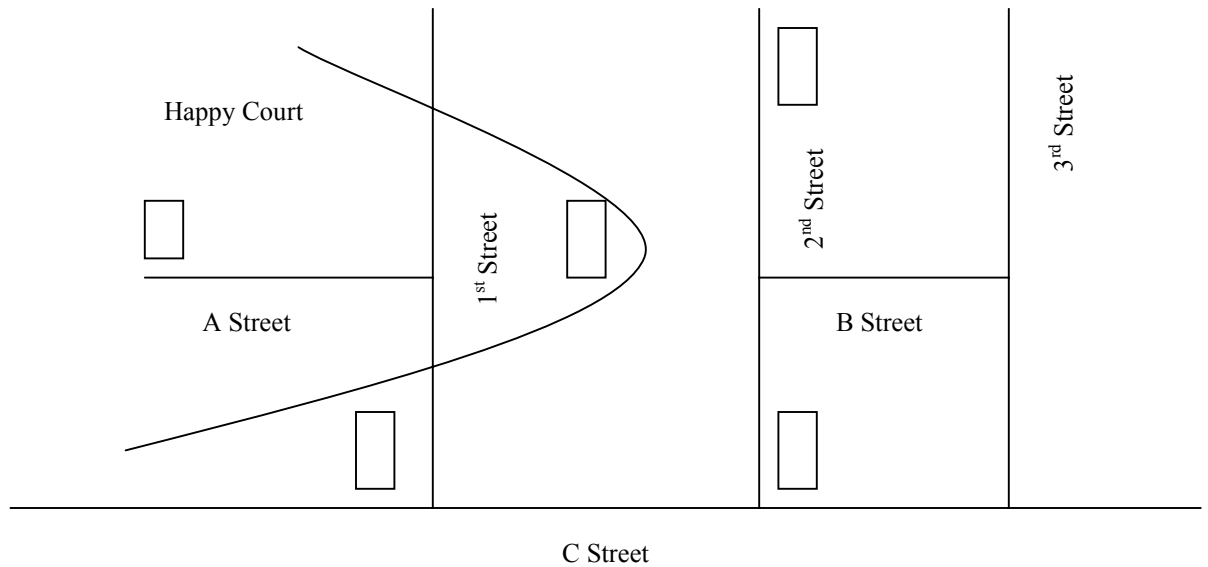
### **Special Bins Available**

- The landfills won't take mattresses, however you can get a separate bin for mattresses if you have several to dispose of (at an additional charge).
- If your area has a lot of concrete to dispose of, you may be able to get a "Rock Box" from the hauler. But then ONLY concrete can go in that bin.

**Don't promise to take everybody's everything. You have to end sometime!**

## Attachment 1

### Community Map



#### Site Locations

- 1 across from (add property address) on A Street
- 2 on Happy Court
- 3 on 1234 2<sup>nd</sup> Street across from
- 4 on the Corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and C Street
- 5 on the Corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and C Street

#### Type of Materials

- 1 Rubbish and 1 Metal
- 1 Rubbish and 1 Metal
- 1 Rubbish and 1 Metal
- 1 Rubbish and 1 Metal
- 1 Rubbish and 1 Metal

## **Attachment 2**

### DUMPSTER COMPANY OPTIONS

<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>
Waste Management	408 980-9900
U-Save Hauling	408 238-7857
Premier Recycle and Disposal	408 297-7910
Vinny's Hauling Plus	408 629-1571
Low Cost Hauling	408 292-4946
Number One Disposal	408 270-7258
Recycling and Solid Waste Program	408 277-5533
Ninety Nine Dollar Debris Box	408 286-9900
U-Save Bobcat Hauling Service	408 371-7116
Sam's Easy Hauling	408 249-7341
San Jose Recycling	408 937-0188
See Me Haul	408 977-0790
Mission Trail Waste Systems	408 727-5365
Pacific Coast Recycling	408 298-9065

### BATTERY AND TIRE RECYCLING

Battery Recycle	408 295-7100
ABC Recycling (Batteries)	1-800-970-4222
Tate Family Auto Care (Tires)	408 293-8915

### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Streets and Traffic	408 277-4373
Vehicle Abatement	408 277-5305
Code Enforcement	408 277-4528

**Attachment #3**

Attachment 3

**Community Clean Up!**  
**Coming soon!**



For more information please call  
(your contact information here)

Help us clean up your community

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**(DATE AND TIME HERE)**

**More information to follow soon!**

**Community Clean Up!**  
**Coming soon!**



For more information please call  
(your contact information here)

Help us clean up your community

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**(DATE AND TIME HERE)**

**More information to follow soon!**

## Attachment #4

(Your Community Name Here)

# Community Clean Up

Help us clean up our  
neighborhood!

**FREE  
Bins for  
Garbage.**

Date: (your information  
here)

Time: (your information  
here) or until all bins are  
full!!!



**For more  
information please  
call (your contact  
name and  
information here)**

### **Placement of the bins will be:**

\* (your address information  
here)  
\* (your address information  
here)  
\* (your address information  
here)  
\* (your address information  
here)

(optional)  
**BBQ**  
(Time and Place)

### **Please follow the instructions for every ones safety!**

- You must show this paper to the bin monitor before the use of the bins.
- Bring all bulky items early!
- Put all metal items in the “Metal Only” bins.
- Refrigerators and air conditioners and other items that contains CFC will not be accepted.
- Tires will not be permitted!
- No dangerous materials like paints, gasoline, or oil. Call the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Management Program at (408) 299-7300 for more information.
- No household garbage or concrete.
- Don’t take any items that are recyclable, such as newspaper, bottles and cans to the bins.
- Don’t leave Garbage outside of the bins.
- There will be no parking permitted in the area with “No Parking” sign posted, on the day of clean up. Any parked vehicles will be towed at the owners expense.



## **Attachment #5**

(Use your own letterhead)

Dear Neighbor,

This (Add your day and date) there will be a Neighborhood Cleanup in the (add your area) area. Large Dumpsters will be placed on the street were this vehicle is parked. After the event, neighborhood volunteers will help clean the bin site area.

The "No Parking/Tow Away Zone" only applies to (add your day). However it is suggested that you do not park between the sign on Friday evening, since bins arrive very early.

Please do not place items for cleanup on the street park strip. Other people may try to "dump" items that are not allowed in the bins. There will be a bin for "metal only" and other for "rubbish", such as old furniture, toys and other household items.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns about this Neighborhood Cleanup event, please contact (put your contact person and number).